

## Talcott Free Library Board Meeting

Monday, April 4, 2022

Members present: A. Floto, L. Floto, D. Garlow, T. Garlow, Geddeis, Kovanda, Ragaller, Director Gove.

President Kovanda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Secretary's Report: No motion is required. Members have read the report. Approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Geddeis moved, and Ragaller seconded, to approve the report. Motion passed unanimously. The board reviewed and discussed a cash management proposal from PMA. Geddeis noted that Hononegah High School works with PMA, and offered to discuss their experiences with the school's financial officer. No action taken at this time. The library's phone service will be changed from Frontier to Charter, at significant savings. Snow removal and utilities expenses are now more expensive due to the increase in square footage since the building was expanded. The 2020 census shows an approximate 20% decrease in our district's population since 2010, from 13,777 to 11,060. This could potentially affect the per capita grant which is part of district revenue. Currently Shirland, Harrison and Owen townships, while in Hononegah High School's district, are not part of Talcott's district. Residents of these townships can obtain library cards by paying annual fees equivalent to residents with properties of equal assessed valuations.

Librarian's Report: D. Garlow moved, and L. Floto seconded, to approve this report and the payment of current bills. Motion passed unanimously.

Building and Grounds Report: T. Garlow moved, and Ragaller seconded, to authorize the Director to solicit bids for roof repair, both for a membrane only and for complete roof replacement. Motion approved unanimously. The parking lot lamp has been rewired and connected to the library building and is now working. Estimates will soon be received for landscaping work along the Main Street side.

Unfinished Business: Kovanda moved, and Geddeis seconded, to approve the Gifts and Memorials policy. Passed unanimously.

New Business: The Intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Village of Rockton and School District 140 was approved unanimously on a motion by T. Garlow seconded by Ragaller. This IGA defines responsibilities connected with a Story Walk to be installed in Settlers Park in memory of teacher Gail Johnson. The library will periodically update laminated story pages in cooperation with the Rockton Grade School librarians. District 140 will maintain the infrastructure. A realtor's assessment of prevailing lease levels was discussed. Input will be sought from additional realtors. A committee of the Board may be appointed to handle negotiations with the Dairyhäus. The Board reviewed employees' (very favorable) evaluations of the Director's performance. Adjustments in wages will be considered after a review of local library director salaries. Director Gove was asked to present two or three goals at the next meeting.

T. Garlow moved, and L. Floto seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Adjournment at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by L. Floto, Secretary